

and evenings sorting mail to help people communicate. And she would not have it any other way. According to her colleagues, Pat is well-loved and respected because she personifies all that is good about the Postal Service. Her sound integrity and reliability are an asset to the two offices in which she works.

While the methods have changed, the basic mission of both Pat and the Postal Service remains as important today as it has ever been, and perhaps even more so in this fast-paced information age. With data whirling by us via e-mail, fax, interactive cable, and other, yet-to-be developed supertechnologies, we must not lose sight of the basic service that Pat renders, which is so important to our continued well-being. Pat's contribution, along with that of others, enables 125 million American households to receive prompt, universal mail service, 6 days a week, at just about the lowest rates in the industrial world.

Pat's career, and the honors that have come her way recently, have been recounted in the following story written by Tracy Valentine in the Watertown Daily Times. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to pay tribute to Pat Drake for giving 54 years of dedicated service to the communities of Theresa and Watertown, NY, and to wish her continued success in all her endeavors.

[From the Watertown Daily Times, Apr. 30, 1995]

THERESA MAIL CLERK STILL ENJOYS POST POSITION AFTER 54 YEARS ON JOB
(By Tracy Valentine)

THERESA.—Patricia M. Drake started working as a postal clerk in 1941, when the price of a stamp was 3 cents and zip codes didn't yet exist.

Fifty-four years later, Mrs. Drake is still on the job and seems to be fazed very little by all the dramatic changes she's witnessed over the decades.

"A lot has changed, but that's what you've got to expect," said Mrs. Drake, who lives on Drake Road.

But she admits that when she started working at the Theresa post office at age 17, she never expected to remain on the job for more than a half-century.

"I never thought I'd be here this long," said Mrs. Drake, who at 71 is a grandmother with no immediate plans to retire from her part-time job.

She was honored Tuesday for her decades of service to the U.S. Postal Service during a luncheon at the Riveredge Resort at Alexandria Bay.

Her service also represents the continuation of a family legacy. Mrs. Drake's mother, Marie Proctor, was Theresa's postmaster from 1943 to 1963.

Mrs. Drake started her job during wartime and often sorted the daily shipments of V-Mail, correspondences from World War II soldiers to their families.

The much-anticipated blue envelopes contained copies of troops' letters that were made by the U.S. government, which often kept the originals.

"We would call the families or drop the letters off on our way home because we knew they were anxious to hear from their sons overseas," recalls Mr. Drake.

Today, machinery is more widely used to sort mail and cancel postage, but Mrs. Drake remembers a time when all mail was hand sorted. It arrived in Theresa every morning by train and was delivered to townspeople, most of whom she knew.

Today, machines have taken over a lot of the work, trucks have replaced the trains, and she said it is harder and harder to remember all the new faces in town.

"Fort Drum has changed things. There's lots of new people around," said Mrs. Drake, who also worked as a part-time evening clerk at the Watertown post office for nearly 20 years.

More people mean more mail, and Mrs. Drake estimates the amount of mail handled at the Theresa post office has more than tripled since the 1940s.

However, the mail isn't quite as exotic as it used to be.

Mrs. Drake recalled an incident in the 1950s when a shipment of chickens arrived for one of two local hatcheries and was refused.

"We got stuck with them and they were squawking and yakking. They were driving us crazy," said Mrs. Drake, who added that postal workers ended up selling the chickens for \$1 each.

At the Theresa post office she has worked with five officers in charge and five postmasters.

She said the best among them is current Theresa Postmaster Richard R. Kingsbury, who has managed the town's post office for eight years.

"He's tops," Mrs. Drake said of her boss. "He's easy-going and he knows his stuff. He's very good."

Mr. Kingsbury returned the compliment and gave Mrs. Drake high marks for dedication and her strict work ethic.

"She never complains, she's always there when you need her, and there could be mail up to the ceiling and she'd just get right in there and do it," said Mr. Kingsbury, who has nicknamed her "machine-gun Drake" for her swiftness in sorting the morning mail.

"She doesn't take much time off, either," added Mr. Kingsbury. "Probably 50 out of 52 Saturdays she's here."

Watertown Postmaster Warren Johnson also considers Mrs. Drake a rare find.

"She's always on time, and she works from the time she comes into the building until the time she leaves," said Mr. Johnson. "She's a person with a 54-year career and she's done every one really outstanding."

TEXAS STATE LEGISLATURE REQUEST A COPY OF TEXAS CONCURRENT RESOLUTION BE PLACED INTO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the 74th Legislature, Regular Session, 1995 of the State of Texas for recognizing the importance of archiving our State records and hereby request on behalf of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House, and the Secretary of the State of Texas to place a copy of the Texas House Concurrent Resolution into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas, In response to an Act of Congress approved April 10, 1869, the 12th Legislature of the State of Texas convened in Provisional Session from February 8 to February 24, 1870, and ratified Amendments XIII, XIV, and XV to the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, Those federal constitutional amendments, each ratified by separate joint resolutions of the 12th Legislature on Feb-

ruary 15, 1870, solidified some of the most precious rights that have been guaranteed constitutionally to Americans, particularly ethnic minorities who were granted the blessings of equal citizenship and the beginning of an end to their past oppression; and

Whereas, Amendment XIII eliminated forever the practice of slavery, Amendment XIV promised due process and the equal protection of the laws, and Amendment XV prohibited denial of suffrage on the grounds of race, color, or previous condition of servitude; and

Whereas, Over time, copies of the three resolutions regrettably have vanished from the holdings of the Texas state archives, yet others are preserved in Washington, D.C., by virtue of their certification and transmittal to the Secretary of State of the United States and to the presiding officers of the United States Congress; and

Whereas, The 1995 Regular Session of the 74th Legislature coincides with the 125th anniversary of these historic ratification actions and marks an appropriate time for the conveyance to this state of replicas of the three resolutions so that Texans may view and appreciate a series of documents that have played such an important role in the extension and elaboration of their civil rights: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the 74th Legislature of the State of Texas, Regular Session, 1995, hereby respectfully request the National Archives and Records Administration to make copies of the joint resolutions of the 12th Texas Legislature ratifying Amendments XIII, XIV, and XV to the United States Constitution and transmit those copies to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for placement in the state archives: And, be it further

Resolved, That the Texas secretary of state forward copies of this resolution to the archivist of the United States at the National Archives and Records Administration, to the vice-president of the United States and speaker of the United States House of Representatives with a request that this resolution be officially entered in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and to all members of the Texas delegation to the United States Congress, as an official request to the federal government by the 74th Legislature of the State of Texas: And, be it further

Resolved, That if and when such replicas are received from the National Archives and Records Administration, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission be hereby directed to place them in the holdings of the state archives to be available for public viewing and photocopying and in all other respects to be treated as any other material worthy of archival storage and retrieval.

SONS OF ITALY FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL NATIONAL EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP AWARD CEREMONY

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Sons of Italy Foundation for its Seventh Annual National Education and Leadership Award ceremony, which was held April 20 at the National Press Club. This successful event has gained wide recognition during the past few years in Congress, in the corporate community, and among others in the philanthropic community throughout the Nation for its promotion of educational excellence and